Haitian National Police Support Programme

Context

The first months of 2023 observed a steady increase in major crime trends and gang related incidents. The number of reported homicides for 2022 increased by 35.2% since 2021, with 2,183 victims reported during the year (including 163 women and 22 girls), compared with 1,615 (including 93 women and 19 girls) in 2021. 81.6% of homicides were recorded in the West Department, where gang-related crime is most prevalent. Kidnappings also continued to rise, resulting in an increase of 105%, with 1,359 victims (including 294 women and 23 girls) recorded by the police in 2022 compared to 664 in 2021.

Confidence in public institutions and their ability to maintain law and order has reached a historic low leading to an increased closure of businesses, higher unemployment and external migration.

The Haitian National Police (HNP) officially has a force of 15,498 police officers (of which only 1,711 women) though the number of effective officers is estimated to be much lower. This corresponds to a low police-to-population ratio of 1.30 officers per 1,000 inhabitants which is well below the internationally recognized standard of 2.2 with further investments needed.

Objectives

- Improved skills of HNP personnel and an increase in the police-to-population ratio, with greater representation of women;
- Increased effectiveness of the general, criminal and penitentiary intelligence services;
- Strengthened capacities to fight organized crime;
- Improved intervention capacities through the rehabilitation of infrastructure and the provision of equipment to meet logistical requirements;
- Strengthened operational capacities to fight and dismantle gangs;
- Improved performance, governance, and compliance of HNP administrative procedures;

Expected Results

- Extensive training on intelligence, financial management, human rights, negotiation, crisis management, task force coordination;
- 50 police officers trained in accounting and financial auditing;
- Provision of 25 standardized all-terrain vehicles and 250 motorcycles for police patrols;
- 300 communication radios procured and assigned to field intervention units;
- Construction of two Departmental Directorates (Nippes and Nord’Est) and rehabilitation of two (GP)NH Regional Offices (Hinche, Cayes);
- Refurbishment of about twenty structures (police stations and sub-police stations) to improve the comfort and security of police officers;
- Installation of 20 solar energy systems in the rehabilitated police stations to be equipped with computers and IT systems for effective connectivity;
- Creation of a cell to fight against cybercrime with adequate equipment and operating materials;
- Hundreds of individual tactical protection units for select police units.
In numbers...

About 200 gangs throughout the country

+104.7% Increase of kidnapping, with 1,359 victims in 2022

2,183 homicides reported in 2022 (including 163 women and 22 girls)

Alignment with the HNP development strategy and Haiti’s strategic development plan

The Support Program is aligned with the government’s priorities regarding the rule of law, justice and security as expressed in the Strategic Plan for the Development of Haiti 2030.

The Program is the result of extensive consultations between the HNP, the UN and the main technical and financial partners involved in the security sector (such as the United States, Canada, France and the OAS), to coordinate plans and programmes and thereby ensure the optimization of the assistance provided to the HNP. National and international stakeholders ensure close coordination of efforts between partners and the programme of support to avoid duplication of efforts.

“...The Haitian National Police must evolve in order to adapt and effectively meet its obligations and the unprecedented security challenges.”

Frantz Elbé, Director General of the HNP

Management and Accountability

- The program is managed by UNDP, in close collaboration with the UN Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH), the Haitian Ministry of Justice and Public Security (MJSJ) and the HNP;
- The program will benefit from the expertise of participating UN entities including the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), and the UN Office of Drug Control (UNODC);
- A Steering Committee at Ministerial and Ambassadorial level reviews progress and results and provides high-level oversight and decision-making;
- A Technical Committee meets regularly, at least quarterly, to review activity- and output level results and resolve any obstacles as they arise;
- UNDP has been regularly rated as the UN’s most influential agency, is a leader in aid effectiveness and transparency, manages results and resources by principles of value-for-money and is considered an organization that is fit-for-purpose.

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<th>Area of focus</th>
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Financial partners

Canada, Germany, Italy, Japan, United States

Implemented by:

For more information:
Paolo Del Minstro - Technical Consultant
paolo.delminstro@undp.org

Programme Transparency